

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 LIMA 00070 051708Z

ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NSCE-00 PM-05 L-03 AID-05
IGA-02 MCE-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 EB-08
SS-15 INRE-00 SSO-00 /072 W
-----076223 051711Z /47

O R 051559Z JAN 78

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8127

INFO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

S E C R E T LIMA 0070

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, PARM, PE

SUBJECT: PERUVIAN PURCHASE OF DTUCH DESTROYER

REF: (A) STATE 001446, (B) USDAO LIMA 122027Z (NOTAL)

1. AS INDICATED IN THE REFERENCED MESSAGE, DUTCH
AMBASSADOR PIET HOUBEN INITIALLY TOLD ME THAT THE
DESTROYER DEAL WAS DEAD. ON JANUARY 3 HE CHANGED THE
SIGNALS, INFORMING ME THAT A DESTROYER ALMOST CERTAINLY
WILL BE TRANSFERRED ALONG WITH THE CRUISER "SEVEN
PROVINCES". APPARENTLY THE CONTRACT ITSELF HAS NOT
BEEN SIGNED BUT AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE HAS BEEN REACHED.

2. HOUBEN MADE THE FOLLOWING POINTS IN RESPONSE TO MY
QUESTION:

--DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN THE DUTCH AND THE PERUVIANS
ABOUT POSSIBLE DESTROYER TRANSFERS GO BACK "SEVERAL YEARS";

--THE PERUVIANS HAVE MADE NO REQUEST FOR A
SECOND DESTROYER;

--THE PRUCHASE PRICE COMES TO NINE MILLION
GUILDERS PAYABLE OVER "AT LEAST THREE YEARS";

--THE DESTROYER IN QUESTION IS PURPORTEDLY AN
OBSOLETE CRAFT THAT THE PERUVIAN NAVY ASSERTS IT NEEDS

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FOR PATROL PURPOSES.

3. I SAID I FOUND IT DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND HOW THE
GON COULD ENTER INTO SUCH A TRANSACTION WITH A COUNTRY
IN SUCH DESPERATE FINANCIAL STRAITS. HOUBEN SAID HE
WAS OPPOSED TO THE DEAL.

4. COMMENT: I ASSUME THE GOP REGARDS THIS DESTROYER
AS PART OF THE PIPELINE, GIVEN THE APPARENTLY LONG
HISTORY BEHIND THE PURCHASE.

5. WE NOTE THE SENSITIVE NATURE OF THE INFORMATION WHICH
OCCASIONED THE SENDING OF REF A. IN VIEW OF OUR INTEREST
IN FOLLOWING THE ARMS QUESTION HERE, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT
WE MAINTAIN ACCESS TO THE SOURCES WHO CAN KEEP
US INFORMED.
SHLAUDEMAN

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DESTROYERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978LIMA00070
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780008-0883
Format: TEL
From: LIMA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780197/aaaaddyh.tel
Line Count: 72
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c4d38be6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 1446
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 jul 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3825479
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PERUVIAN PURCHASE OF DTUCH DESTROYER
TAGS: MASS, PARM, PE
To: STATE
Type: TE
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Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
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